

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

NOV 17 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ames, et al

Serial No: 10/814,388

Filed: 3/30/04

For: Method of Joining Optical Fiber  
Preforms and Apparatus  
Therefore

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner:

Docket No. SP04-015

Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

STATUS INQUIRY

Applicants hereby request the status of the above referenced pending application and  
a projected date for the next action.

11/17/06  
Date

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION</b> <b>UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:</p> <p><u>11/17/06</u> Date</p> <p><u>Kevin M. Able</u> Kevin M. Able Date</p>
--

Respectfully submitted,  
CORNING INCORPORATED

Kevin M. Able  
Kevin M. Able  
Registration No. 52,401  
Corning Incorporated  
Patent Department  
Mail Stop SP-TI-03-1  
Corning, NY 14831